PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q66977

NAGARE, KOICHIRO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/993,621

Confirmation No.: 8241

Filed: November 27, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: Karl J. Puttlitz

January 20, 2004

PRODUCTION PROCESS FOR PRODUCT OF DEHYDRATION REACTION AND

APPARATUS USED FOR THE PRODUCTION

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

For:

ECH CENTER BORSON Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time month(s), extending the time for responding to the Office Action of September 17, 2003 from December 17, 2003, to Saturday, January 17, 2004, thus allowing for timely filing on Tuesday, January 20, 2004 (further in view of Monday, January 19, 2004 being a U.S. holiday).

A check for the statutory fee of \$110.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 20, 2004

Respectfully submitted,